

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EA-07 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 OES-03

EB-07 COME-00 INT-05 FEA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /070 W

----- 015528

R 240845Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7183

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 0223

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, SU

SUBJECT: OIL IN SUDAN?

1. ON JAN 21 YAR FONMIN ABDALLAH AL-ASNAJ TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT SUDANESE HAVE CLAIMED, DURING RECENT YAR STATE VISIT TO KHARTOUM, THAT VERY LARGE DEPOSITS OF OIL HAD BEEN LOCATED IN SUDAN, APPARENTLY WITH CHINESE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. MOREOVER, CHINESE HAD ALLEGEDLY ADVISED SUDANESE TO SEEK AMERICAN ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING THESE OIL FIELDS AS CHINESE COULD BE OF LITTLE USE AT THIS TIME IN PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETING OF NEW OIL. ASNAJ WENT ON TO SAY THEY HAD BEEN TOLD THAT SIZE OF NEW FINDS COULD MAKE SUDAN RIVAL IN LONG RUN OF SAUDI PRODUCTION.

2. COMMENT: SOURCE OF THIS STORY WAS PRESIDENT NUMIER AND WE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF IT IS NOT RPT NOT BEING ACCURATELY REPORTED TO US BY ASNAJ. NEVERTHELESS, AMOUNT OF OIL AND CHINESE ROLE DO NOT SEEM UNLIKELY TO US. ASNAJ SEEMED TO BELIEVE STORY BUT HIS REACTION SEEMED TO BE THAT EVERYONE
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BUT YEMENIS COULD DISCOVER OIL.

RANSOM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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